

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 BIB-01 /085 W
-----117328 242135Z /64

R 241125Z JAN 78
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6094
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 0179

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, BQG, WB, EC
SUBJECT: NEUES DEUTSCHLAND JAN. 23 REPRINTS PRAVDA ATTACKS ON
EC COMMITTEE AND CDU BUNDESTAG CAUCUS MEETINGS IN BERLIN

REF: (A) USBERLIN 0159, (B) USBERLIN 0174

SUMMARY: PRAVDA EDITORIAL PUBLISHED IN JANUARY 23 NEUES
DEUTSCHLAND CLOSELY PARALLEL SOVIET EMBASSY PROTESTS ON
MEETINGS OF EC COMMITTEES AND CDU/CSU BUNDESTAG CAUCUS
IN WEST BERLIN. RADIO PEACE AND PROGRESS IS ALSO CITED.
END SUMMARY.

1. PRAVDA COMMENTARY WRITTEN BY STANISLAW SJUBANOW JAN. 21,
ATTACKED THE RECENT BERLIN MEETING OF THE CDU/CSU
BUNDESTAG CAUCUS AND THE PLANNED MEETINGS OF THREE
EUROPEAN COMMITTEES IN WEST BERLIN. THE FULL TEXT OF THAT
COMMENTARY WAS REPRINTED BY NEUES DEUTSCHLAND ON
JAN. 23, 1978.

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2. PRAVDA REFERRED TO PRESS REPORTS THAT CDU/CSU
CAUCUS IN ITS BERLIN MEETING PREPARED FOR THE BUNDESTAG
DEBATE AND DEALT WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT THE INNER SECURITY OF
THE FRG. THEREFORE, PRAVDA CHARGED THE MEETING WAS "POLITICAL
DEMONSTRATION" WHICH "ONCE MORE SOUGHT, IN CONTRADIC-
TION TO THE QA, TO ENDORSE THE ILLEGAL FRG CLAIM THAT

BERLIN IS A LAND OF THE FRG."

3. PRAVDA COMMENTARY ALSO ATTACKED THE BERLIN MEETINGS OF THREE EUROPEAN COMMITTEES--THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL POLICY AND TRANSPORTATION, AND THE AGRARIAN COMMITTEE--SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 24 THROUGH JANUARY 27, 1978. PRAVDA ACCOUNT CHARGED THAT "LEADING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, WHO WERE IN UNDUE DEPENDENCE OF FRG CIRCLES INTERESTED IN INCREASING TENSIONS" DECIDED TO HOLD THE "PROVOCATIVE EVENTS." THE PRAVDA PIECE REITERATED STANDARD SOVIET VIEW THAT SUCH EUROPEAN ACTIVITIES ARE INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT, CHARGING THAT "IT IS NO SECRET THAT THE MEETINGS WERE NOTHING BUT AN ATTEMPT TO EXTEND THE COMPETENCES OF EUROPEAN ORGANS TO WEST BERLIN, TO LINK THE CITY TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, AND TO CHANGE WEST BERLIN'S POLITICAL AND LEGAL STATUS."

4. FINALLY PRAVDA REFERRED TO THE SPEECH OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WEST BERLIN SOCIALIST UNITY PARTY (SEW) GERHARD DANIELIUS WHO RECENTLY, IN A MEETING OF THE SEW BOARD, CONDEMNED ALL ATTEMPTS TO REVIVE THE POLICY OF COLD WAR AND PROVOCATIONS AND CALLED FOR STRICT OBSERVANCE AND FULL APPLICATION OF THE QUADRIpartite CONFIDENTIAL

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AGREEMENT.

5. IN SIMILAR VEIN, NEUES DEUTSCHLAND ON JANUARY 24 ALSO REPRINTED A LONGISH MOSCOW RADIO PEACE AND PROGRESS DENUNCIATION OF BERLIN SESSIONS OF BUNDESTAGSFRAKTIONEN. THESE ARE DEPLORED AS VIOLATIONS OF THE QA. THE GDR TURNBACK OF CDU CHAIRMAN KOHL WAS EXPLAINED AS RETALIATION FOR HIS CDU FRAKTION MEETING, A "POLITICAL DEMONSTRATION OF THE FRG IN WEST BERLIN." THE GDR DECISION WAS LAUDED AS AIMED AT ENSURING THAT WEST BERLIN NOT BE A "PLACE OF PROVOCATION AGAINST DETENTE, INCLUDING HOSTILE OUTBREAKS AGAINST THE GDR."

6. COMMENT. THESE SOVIET PIECES CLOSELY PARALLEL PROTESTS BY SOVIETS (REFTELS). IT STRIKES US THAT SOVIETS AND GDR ARE LATELY INCREASINGLY PUBLICIZING MAJOR THRUST OF THEIR DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS TO US IN THIS MANNER. THEY ARE ABLE THEREBY TO MAKE PUBLIC THE CONTENT OF THOSE COMMUNICATIONS BY INDIRECT MEANS, WHILE COMPLAINING ANY TIME WORD OF ONE OF OUR COMPLAINTS LEAKS OUT. GEORGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ALLEGATIONS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USBERL00179
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780036-0330
Format: TEL
From: USBERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780127/aaaaawnd.tel
Line Count: 114
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 07d9a1e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 USBERLIN 159, 78 USBERLIN 174
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3720459
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEUES DEUTSCHLAND JAN. 23 REPRINTS PRAVDA ATTACKS ON EC COMMITTEE AND CDU BUNDESTAG CAUCUS MEETINGS IN BERLIN
TAGS: PGOV, WB, CR, BQG, EEC, CDU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbcc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/07d9a1e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014